

The Gospel Project for Adults, Summer 2015  
Extended Instructional Approaches for Session 2

**Introduction: *Engage your group members with the subject.***

Ask, “*How many of you have ever had an eye examination?*” Most should answer yes. Then ask them, “*Did your doctor make you look through a machine and then cycle through a series of lenses until you could see clearly?*” They should also answer yes. Say, “*Looking through a clear set of lenses helps us to see what is in our path more clearly. The same is true for the Bible. Today we will look at some lenses that will aid us in seeing God’s Word more clearly.*”

**Part 1: *Engage your group members by having them think more deeply about the topic.***

Ask, “*Think back to when you were dating. Did you write/email your fiancé regularly? How often? Why?*” The class members should recall that they did regularly contact their respected loved ones. They should also relate such ideas as “I love them and I wanted them to know,” “It was a way for us to get to know each other better,” etc. God gives us His Word as a means to an end. The ultimate goal of Bible reading should be to get to know God better. Since He is invisible, we cannot learn about Him fully in the typical ways we do with human beings. God has lovingly condescended to give us His Word so that we can know Him better.

**Part 2: *Focus your group members on the theme of the Bible.***

Write the following Adrian Rogers quote on the white board: “*When the child of God loves the Word of God and sees the Son of God, He is changed by the Spirit of God into the image of God for the glory of God because he has found the truth of God.*”

Break the class into 2-3 smaller groups. Let them examine this passage for five minutes. Have them share their insights.

[Adrian Rogers, *Adrianisms: The Wit and Wisdom of Adrian Rogers* (Memphis: Love Worth Finding , 2007), 79.]

### **Part 3: Engage their thinking by using “Think-Pair-Share” technique.**

**Think-Pair-Share:** One of the emphases of this section is on the importance of community to strengthen us. Provide perspective and encouragement. Simon and Garfunkel wrote the song “I Am a Rock” available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKISVNxLB-A> (3 minutes).

As your group members listens to the song, ask them to try and pick out the theme and a line that impacts them: “**Think** for 30 seconds about these questions... Now I want you to discuss this in **pairs** with a person on your left or right who is not your spouse.” (Pause for 60 seconds.) Call on 3-4 pairs to **share** one idea.

### **Conclusion: Challenge for application.**

Ask your students to spend a few minutes in prayer asking God to reveal if they need to “clean their lenses.” Maybe they have been ignoring the “lens” of reading the Bible in light of the rest of the Scripture. Perhaps they are missing the “lens” of focusing on Christ as they read the Scripture. Possibly they see themselves as “Lone Ranger” Christians not being engaged in the community of believers as they ought. Whatever the Holy Spirit brings to mind, they need to deal with.

### **Teaching Tip of the Week**

The imagination is crucial when communicating with students. Too many times our lessons are packed with Bible facts that students can regurgitate but never seem to be able to apply in their lives. Warren Wiersbe writes, “While the responsibility for their disobedience is totally their own, the responsibility for making the proclamation of God’s truth exciting and personal rests with those of us who preach. The ‘hearers of the Word’ can’t easily become ‘doers’ if their ‘hearing’ doesn’t become ‘seeing.’ ” Seek to engage your students’ “seeing” through the use of stories and metaphors that stimulate their heads and hearts.

[Warren W. Wiersbe, *Preaching and Teaching with Imagination* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994), 61.]